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Wilt Carter



*The Greatest Stage Show Ever Presented
at the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede*

"Say It With Music"

starring **JULIETTE, SETH RIGGS, WILF CARTER,**
the **CHAI NE DANCERS, MANHATTAN ROCKETS, PLUS...**

EIGHT TOP FLIGHT VARIETY ACTS



JULIETTE



SETH RIGGS



WILF CARTER

**NEW LIGHTING — NEW SCENERY — NEW TALENT AND A WHOLE NEW CONCEPT IN
OUTDOOR STAGE ENTERTAINMENT**

You can't afford to miss this great nightly attraction at the
Calgary Exhibition and Stampede.

Produced by the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede Ltd. — Directed by Randolph Avery of Chicago

New — Exciting — Exhilarating

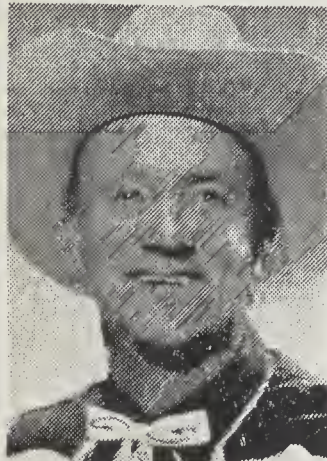
**JULY 6-11
1964**

Wilf Carter Steals Spotlight

By **BOB SHIELS**

[Herald Staff Writer]

The Exhibition Board may have found the formula for a successful grandstand show.



WILF CARTER

... he came prepared

Rushed into being during a long, wet and frantic week-end, this year's edition emerged Monday night looking like a winner.

The two-hour show was generally zestful and moved at a pace that isn't remembered from some previous grandstand offerings.

It helps when the performers themselves look like they are enjoying every minute of it. These did.

If there was an individual star, it was none other than that old trouper, Wilf Carter.

The dean of western music was in fine form.

He's waited 30 years for this particular occasion and he came prepared.

He had written a song to celebrate the occasion — C-A-L-G-A-R-Y, The Heart of the Golden West.

He sang it to a solid ovation.

The crowd, overflowing in front of the grandstand and packed bleachers, was a vast one. Estimates ran to 20,000 and higher.

Juliette, resplendent in a flowing blue gown, sang some of the songs that have become familiar from her Saturday night CBC television program.

She got the crowd behind her with oldies like Bill Bailey and that new one which Louis Armstrong has put on the hit parade: Hello, Dolly.

Generally speaking, it was Wilf Carter's night — though he could have been given more stage time — but the rest of the imports came through as thorough-going professionals.

They worked under the direction of an old pro, Randolph Avery, of Chicago, who deserves the credit for a fast-

paced, well-staged program.

If the pace of the spectacular, colorful opening and closing numbers could have been maintained, this would indeed have been something to write home about.

Some of the acts looked familiar — a stand-up comedian, acrobats, chorus lines and the like.

There was a difference, though. The comedian, Don Rice, was genuinely funny, the acrobats were spectacular (and funny) and the dancers had learned all the steps.

Add Seth Riggs, the vocalist; the Chainé dancers; a family acrobatic team, including a little girl who stole the act; a dog act; a monkey act.

The only amateurs in the show were 25 senior students from Crescent Heights High who served in the chorus line. They performed like veterans.

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Bob SHIELS

... on television

Some celebrities and just plain folks and what they are doing this week:

★ ★ ★

WILF CARTER is reminiscing and singing two songs at the grandstand show and there is only one thing wrong with his act — it isn't nearly long enough . . . Open suggestion to **RANDOLPH AVERY**, the director: Switch the script for Saturday's grand finale and give ol' Wilf a better shot at it . . . For the record, that C-A-L-G-A-R-Y song that Mr. Carter sings owes its inspiration in part to **MAURICE HARTNETT** . . . Maurice and Wilf were chatting about the Golden West and the latter, inspired, went back to his hotel room and wrote it right there . . . If Mr. Carter should get more time, there is no need to worry about his repertoire. He has composed more than 500 songs during the course of a career that started in 1932 . . . The first one he wrote was for **PETE KNIGHT**, King of the Cowboys.

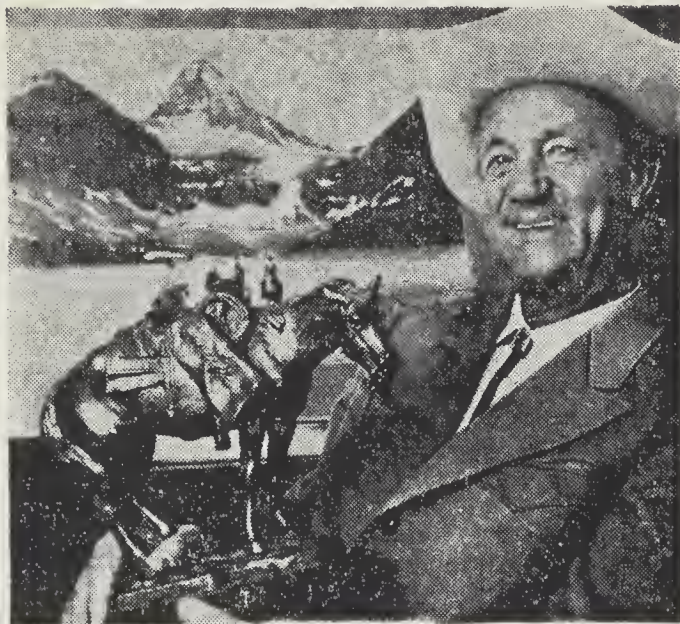
LOOK

What's Inside The Herald Today

- Peter Bawden rig takes chuckwagon lead — Page 15
- ● Veteran Wilf Carter makes grandstand show 'winner' — Page 15

STAMPEDE NOSE COUNT

	1964	1963	Record
Monday	99,307	101,248	110,220 ('59)
Tuesday	85,258	87,035	91,026 ('59)
Wednesday	95,368	75,920	99,837 ('59)
Thursday	78,037	80,440	83,510 ('62)
Friday	106,149	112,957	112,957 ('63)
Saturday	109,441	114,646	124,463 ('62)
Total	573,560	572,246	591,715 ('59)



WILF CARTER

Stampede Honors Cowboy Singer

Wilf Carter say "Goodbye and thank you," to Calgary this week.

The singer and composer of Western songs was a guest and stage attraction at the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede last week.

Sunday morning at the Cross Breakfast he was presented with a Charles A. Beil bronze figure which was inscribed "Presented to Wilf Carter, Balladeer of the Golden West, in sincere appreciation of 33 wonderful years: The officers and directors of Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. Calgary, Alberta, July 6-11, 1964.

The singer was also presented with a large framed photograph of Mount Assiniboine in the Canadian Rockies by M. E. Hartnett, general manager of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede.

Wilf Carter said both gifts, wonderful in themselves, have very special significance for him. In years gone by he rode in the Banff area with artist Charlie Beil who made the bronze figure of a weary horse at the end of a long day's ride. Also, in years gone by, Wilf rode as a dude wrangler in the region of Mount Assiniboine. "I've camped right where that picture was taken," he says.

Mr. Carter said he wished to give his personal thanks to everyone, the exhibition board, patrons at the night show where he performed, the police of Calgary, members of press, radio

and television and everyone else who made his return to Calgary so enjoyable and successful. "I want everyone to know that it was the greatest week in my life and I'm grateful to everyone who helped make it that way."

After leaving Calgary the cowboy balladeer will make appearances elsewhere in Western Canada before returning to his home in Florida.

Stampede



Vignettes

Veteran trouper Wilf Carter is the idol of every performer at the Stampede grandstand show.

"He's so calm all the time, so relaxed, he just makes everybody feel good," claimed the Lounsbury sisters, famed baton-twirlers.

According to singing star Juliette he is "just wonderful." She added that his calm attitude permeates everywhere backstage, making all the performers feel at ease.

"He's just terrific!" Joan Lounsbury enthused.

Obviously, the audiences think so too.

Another group which receives enthusiastic admiration from the professionals in the grandstand show is the Crescent Heights Choir.

"Those kids start to sing the minute they come backstage," Barbara Lounsbury said. "And they just never stop. They are really good, too."

Juliette said that the enthusiasm of the 25 boys and girls, all students at Crescent Heights High School in Calgary, transmits itself all over the stage.

"They are so energetic they make us all enthused," she added.

Wilf Carter, too, praises the talent and enthusiasm of the youngsters.

"Calgary should be proud of them," he added.

The article below was sent to the newspaper by Randolph Avery, director of the Grandstand show, "Say It With Music". Mr. Avery is also Executive Vice President of BARNES-CARRUTHERS THEATRICAL ENTERPRISES, INC., 159 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill..

Letters to the Editor

Carter 'Didn't Do Too Badly'

Editor, The Albertan:

I am the director of "Say It With Music", the Stampede's night grandstand show. It is 7:15 a.m. Saturday morning, July 11. I am on a plane heading for Winnipeg and I am certain the young lady on my left (I am at the window) must think I am a bit of a nut, for I have just read Wilf Carter's statement in The Albertan of July 11 that he is "waved off the stage after two numbers each evening" causing me to emit a howl of outrage and delight (a rare mixture and don't you dare misquote me).

I am sure that were it known I was leaving town a day early, a rumor would start that the cause of my departure was for fear of being tarred and feathered. Wilf Carter is not only the greatest "scene stealer" I've ever met but also the best headline grabber. There's no hay on Wilf and his American counterpart must be someone no less than Will Rogers.

Though we asked Wilf to sing only two numbers (run-

ning time 6:10 from opening to closing chord), he was never asked to cut any of his dialogue and though I'm sure he was sincere in his belief that he was out there for only a brief moment he may be interested to know he was



WILF CARTER
No hay on him.

timed out in 11:39 on the second night. Considering that some of the other production acts performed for as little as one minute (the Del Rios a total of 55 seconds) he didn't do too badly.

I must tell you before closing of one incident which no one knows about except my choreographer, Felix Sadowski, and me. As you know, we featured Wilf's song, "Cal-

gary," in the show as part of the overture and in the middle scene which was designed for Wilf especially. At the rehearsal Wilf's eyes went a little moist when he heard the stirring brassy Lon Prohut arrangement of his song in the show's opening but when I put him in front of Lloyd Erickson's choir for the first time he really had no idea what was coming and when the kids started singing the counter-melody he let out a whoop of sheer delight. At the finish he turned to me and said, "You know, that sounds better than the way I wrote it!"

It was a touching moment. I think all the Wilf Carter fans would have reached for their handkerchiefs if they could have seen the old gentleman standing with guitar in hand facing the kids with their eager young faces looking at him for approval — a tableau that lasted but a moment you wished you could have saved.

Please tell his fans I'm sorry about the two numbers. It was the way the show was designed and if they will go out and buy one of his albums they can listen to a solid hour of Wilf Carter and old Wilf will surely forgive me.

I had a great time and was proud to be a part of it.

RANDOLPH AVERY

Wilf Rode The Rods Before He Had A Horse

By HELEN McNAMARA

WILF CARTER, the famous Canadian born cowboy singer, lives in Winter Park, Florida, but he's still a Canadian at heart.

The man who travelled from Nova Scotia to Canada's west to become one of the few western singers ever to ride a horse, says "I am still a Canadian and very proud of it."

In Toronto, along with another internationally known singing native of the Maritimes, Hank Snow, Carter was rehearsing his part in a Country and Western Music special for CBC's new Show of the Week series next fall.

"I cherish my heritage," said 60-year-old Carter, who was born in Duysborough, Nova Scotia. "It was Canadian people who started me way back and who are still my most loyal fans."

1932 RECORDS

Carter made his first record, *Swiss Moonlight Lullaby* in 1932 for RCA Victor and he's been with the same company ever since. Soon to be released on that label is his latest LP *Nuggets of the Golden West*.

He does all his own recording. "I get a studio in New York, hire a band and do it as I would on stage," he said. "I want my records to sound just as though I walked out on stage."

Nashville, Tennessee, where most of the country hits are recorded today doesn't rouse much enthusiasm. Carter, clad in a pale green suit, shrugged "They upset me. Too many rehearsals."

Wherever the records are made, however, Carter is convinced that country music will last forever.



WILF CARTER and HANK SNOW
Canadian cowboys for CBC next fall

Telegram

Many of his followers are in the Maritimes and in the west, where he spent most of his youth, as well as in the far north (Mounties have told me that Eskimos play my records") but city folks are avid fans, too.

"I think deep down in city people there is still that pioneer spirit," he said. "It's instilled in them and that's why they like it. I have even had opera lovers saying they're crazy about this music."

"Country music will go on forever. I have seen rock 'n roll come in and all kinds of popular music but I have always stayed with western music. I have gone through lots of cycles but I have always believed in the sincerity of this music. I don't believe in jumping all over to grab a dollar."

SELECTION

Comfortably settled in his Florida home, Carter spends his winters "fishing

every day," and the rest of the year on the road.

"I could have been a millionaire," he said, "But I still like to choose my shows. I never cared about making a lot of money."

This year he realizes a long time ambition to sing at the Calgary Stampede in

July. Years ago, when Wilf rode the rods to the west ("if CP billed me I'd be broke today") he competed in the stampede as a roping, riding cowboy but he was never allowed to sing. "As a local boy they would not put me on," he said, then added with a chuckle, "After 30 years of trying I've finally made it."

Ry MARCEL PRUDEN
Staff Reporter

She's a grandmother and he's 58.

She's pretty and looks in her 20s. He's handsome and looks like a lifeguard who just walked off the beach.

She's Kitty Wells and he's Wilf Carter and they are at Exhibition Auditorium all this week headlining the exhibiton's Grand Ole Opry show daily at 3 and 8 p.m.

Playing before audiences Monday, the Nashville, Tenn. group had everyone clapping and toe-tapping throughout the 80-minute show.

Kitty Wells, wife of master of ceremonies Johnnie Wright, parents of three and grandparents of another three, presented such hits as "Making Believe," and "Heartbreak U.S.A."

Starting with one of his first great recordings "There's A Love Knot in My Lariat," to his newest record, "32 Wonderful Years," Wilf Carter was undoubtedly the crowd's favorite. They cheered before, during and at the end of each number. He, in turn, had a good word for them.

"You've put me here, kept me here, and I owe all my success to all of you—my fans."

Banjo player Harold Morrison, showed there's a lot of comedy in his five-foot frame. He continually kept the audience in a roar of laughter with his many jokes and version of Sonny James' "The Cat Came Back."

Bill Phillips, a long-time member of the Opry troupe, was a hit with "Sawmill" and "Lonely Island Pearls."

Drummer and guitarist Leo

Taylor showed the crowd he could also sing and wooed them with "Lonesome Me," and "On the Tips of My Fingers."

The entire cast, backed throughout by The Tennessee Mountain Boys, teamed up for several numbers, including "Boys in Love," and "I Saw the Light."

The show is a real family one and capacity crowds are expected for the remainder of the week.

Wilf Carter, born in Nova Scotia in 1905 and who has been singing since he was nine, came west to Alberta via boxcar and was once a contestant at the Calgary Stampede.

"I didn't win many belts or win much money, but it was a way to get back and forth to Calgary so I could appear on the local radio," he recalled following the show.

Recently Carter was honored by the Banff museum and a wax statue of him stands with the Fathers of Confederation and other famous Canadians.

Thirty-two years after starting his successful career in show business, Wilf Carter has no thoughts of retirement.

"I feel too good now and will continue for a long time yet," he said. This year he will travel 30,000 miles, playing almost every night.

His other interests include a 30-acre orange grove at his home in Winter Park, Fla., fishing and writing songs. He has written and sung nearly 500.

Always travelling with him is his wife, a one-time school teacher in New York. They have two daughters, Sheila, now married and living in Germany, and Caroline, studying art at University of Oklahoma.



WILF CARTER

Alberta Cowboy

THE YODELLING COWBOY by Wilf Carter. (The Ryerson Press, \$3).

Wilf Carter, Calgary's principal gift to the ranks of range-land troubadors, has written a small (104 pages) but homey autobiography which should be a hit with his many fans.

Carter, whose recordings have been going great guns for some three decades and who has quite a following in these parts, recounts many incidents in his life from his birth in Nova Scotia in December 1904, until the present day. And in his story he puts in quite a few boosts for the Foothills City, where he got his start, and also for the Calgary Stampede.

Although his writing ability — to this reviewer at least — runs a well-beaten second to his singing ability, if you're a cowboy ditty fan, he has turned out a yarn that is easy reading and contains quite a number of good old home truths.

Certainly things weren't easy for the "bluenose cowboy" and he figuratively had to pull himself up by his boot straps but he pulls no punches in describing some of the rougher periods in his life.

Would suggest this might be fine fare for any lad with a guitar and a hankering to become an entertainer. (DGL).

List of ALBUMS on the market is below. Wilf Carter has recorded for RCA Victor since 1932. However, in the last few years he has been free lancing and producing his own recordings giving them to whatever Company he wishes but to date RCA releases most of them.

RCA Victor	--	Wilf Carter (Montana Slim)	Cal-527
" "	--	REMINISCIN' with Wilf Carter	Cal-668
" "	--	Wilf Carter BY REQUEST	Cal-701
" "	--	32 WONDERFUL YEARS	Cal-787
" "	--	Let's Go Back To The Bible	Cal-814
" "	--	Nuggets of the Golden West	Cal-840
Decca Records-		I'M RAGGED BUT I'M RIGHT	DL8917
" "	--	Songs of the Calgary Stampede	AL1615
" "	--	Dynamite Trail	DL4092

Starday Records Wilf Carter (Montana Slim) Yodeling and Singing SLP302



BANFF, ALBERTA, CANADA

WILF CARTER (1904 -)

The figure of Wilf Carter is attired in clothing presented by Mr. Carter. The deerskin jacket was a gift from his Fan Club.

Nova Scotia was the birthplace of the World's Friendliest Cowboy, but for many years Calgary was his home, and it was there his singing career began. Wilf Carter really was a cowboy and bronco-buster; in the early days he was often to be seen at the Calgary Stampede, where his specialty was "eardowning", part of a three-man team that caught, saddled and rode a wild horse. His part was to grab the halter and get the horse's left ear between his teeth, which usually quietened the animal enough to allow the rider to mount.

Wilf Carter was in demand as singer and yodeller at dances and gatherings, and soon he was in Banff as official songster for the CPR Trail Riders. His fame spread and before many years had elapsed Wilf Carter records were selling in the millions. He writes his own songs, and has written so many that he has literally lost count — certainly more than 500. In two nights at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto he entertained 70,000 rapturous fans, and "Montana Slim", as he used to be known, is probably the most popular entertainer in the history of Canadian show business. Recently he was accepted into the Cowboy Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City, and has sung in Australia, where he has many thousands of followers. Wilf Carter now lives in Orlando, Florida, but frequently visits Canada; he seems immune to the passing years, and still the sweet strains of "There's a Love Knot in my Lariat" bring wild applause from the thousands of fans who turn out for his every performance.



THE CALGARY STAMPEDE — SCENE 9